SASSIE NEWS

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AWARDS

Susan Loving recently was presented with the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation Executive Director's Award for "Outstanding Leadership in and Commitment to Employment for Person's with Disabilities". In presenting the award, Blaine Peterson, USOR Executive Director, cited Susan's involvement with the State Rehabilitation Council as chair for two terms and the multi-agency New Futures for Supported Employment Committee and her willingness to work closely with Vocational Rehabilitation staff to facilitate transition services for students with disabilities. Congratulations Susan!

COMING EVENTS

Severe Behavior Institute with Dr. Michael Powers

November 30-December 1, 2004 @ Davis Conference Center. Registration is open. Limited to first 200 Registrants @ http://www.updc.org

Communication Disorder Coordinators Roundtables:

February 9, 2005; May 9, 2005

UAAACT Conference

February 10-11 2005

DATA

December 1 Child Counts:

The December 1 Child Count is due to the USOE Data Clearinghouse on December 15, 2004. There will be no exceptions to that deadline.

2003-2004 Federal Reports are all completed and submitted to the Feds. Thanks.

FUNDING

LEA Applications are Past Due. Please let Sandy Cox know if your application was submitted with your districts Consolidated Plan @ (801) 538-7569.

GRANTS

Access to the General Curriculum Grants: 65 Applications were received and carefully reviewed. What a great response! The following Schools and Districts have been awarded grants for the 2004-2005 school year: Districts (\$9,000):

Davis, Weber, Carbon, Garfield

Schools (\$4,000):

Dee Elementary, Ogden District North Ogden, Ogden District Marlon Hills, Weber District Grant Elementary, Murray District Gunnison Elementary, South Sanpete District

Country View Elementary, Weber District

Plain City Elementary, Weber District

Trailside Elementary, Park City District Doxey Elementary, Davis District Snow Canyon Elementary, Washington District Juab Middle School, Juab District West Jordan Middle, Jordan District Wayne Middle, Wayne District Wasatch High, Wasatch District Mountain High, Davis District Wayne High, Wayne District City Academy, Charter School

Requests for Proposals for FY06 CSPD Discretionary

Projects has been posted. Letters of Intent are due on December 1, 2004. There are 3 Priority Area: (1) Personnel Preparation, (2) Access to the General Curriculum (3) Literacy. For more information go to http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/sars.

You can download a packet of information at http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/sars/Fiscal.htm

Autism Training Grants for 2004-05 have been awarded to the following districts: Davis, Grand, Granite, Wasatch, and Washington. Congratulations.

UPDATES

Tuachan, Charter School

NASDSE Update: The annual Conference for the National Association of State Directors of Special Education was held in Denver on October 24-26, 2005. The focus was on the intersection between NCLB and IDEA. There is strong sentiment nationwide that the implementation of specific requirements of NCLB has been challenging for those serving students with disabilities, and that possible amendments to NCLB might create a better fit. One impact of the NCLB that is being reported in many school systems across the country is that greater focus on academic achievement and accountability has resulted in improved academic outcomes for students with disabilities. **IDEA Reauthorization Update**: Leadership from both NASDSE and OSEP expressed optimism that as Congress reconvenes after the November elections, the work of the IDEA reauthorization conference committee will move quickly toward compromise and that IDEA might be reauthorized before the holiday recess. It appears that staff members have been working many long hours behind closed door and that very little information is available concerning the issues that are being negotiated between the House and Senate Versions of the reauthorization. It is clear that not everyone will be pleased with the final wording by the conference committee, such is political compromise. Keep your ears to the track on this one.

THOUGHTS THAT STICK

"Consider the postage stamp; its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing till it gets there". Josh Billings